

DOCKET NO.: OMOR-0010 (Y03S012-PCT-US)
Application No.: 10/530,219
Office Action Dated: December 23, 2008

**PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116**

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, and 6 to 15 are pending. Claims 1, and 7 to 15 stand finally rejected. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 14 are objected to. Applicants are herein canceling claims 1 and 15, and amending claims 3, 7, 13, and 14. Applicants request entry of the amendment and reconsideration of the pending claims in light of the amendments and following remarks.

Claim Amendments

Applicants are herein cancelling claim 1, without prejudice or disclaimer, and amending claim 3 to present it as an independent claim including the subject matter of claim 1. Applicants are herein amending claims 7 and 13 to depend from independent claim 3. Applicants are herein canceling claim 15, without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is introduced by the amendments to the claims.

Applicants are herein amending claim 14 to include the feature indicated by the Examiner as a distinguishing feature in the allowable subject matter of the Office Action. Applicants are also herein amending claim 14 to present “numerals” as “numeral,” as requested by the Examiner. No new matter is introduced by the amendments to the claims.

Applicants request the entry of the amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b) because the amendments to the claims either cancel claims, comply with requirements of form expressly set forth in a previous Office Action, or present the rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 14 are objected to because “numerals” should read “numeral.” Applicants are herein cancelling claim 1, without prejudice or disclaimer, and amending claim 14 to make this amendment. Accordingly, applicants request withdrawal of the objection.

Claim Rejections

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that the objection to the specification and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112 and 101 have been withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and claims 7 to 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that the Office has indicated that claims 3, 4, 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants are herein amending claim 3 to present it as an independent claim including all of the features of the base claim and the intervening claims. Applicants are also herein amending claim 14 to incorporate the distinguishing feature. Accordingly, applicants believe that claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 7 to 14 are novel and nonobvious and request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103.

Conclusions

Applicants request:

- (1) entry of the amendments to the claims;
- (2) withdrawal of the claim objections;
- (3) withdrawal of the claim rejections; and
- (4) allowance of claims 1, 3, 4, and 6 to 14.

If the Examiner is of a contrary view, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at (404) 459-5642.

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